



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Group Administrator Memo #04-03

To: Selected Group Benefits Administrators
From: Mary P. Habel, Director
State and Local Health Benefits Programs
Date: March 19, 2004
Re: Anesthesiology Consultants of Roanoke

(Note: Anesthesiology Consultants returned to the Anthem network effective April 14, 2004).

Anesthesiology Consultants of Virginia, Inc., of Roanoke resigned from the Anthem network serving the Commonwealth of Virginia and The Local Choice statewide plans effective March 17, 2004. This new group represents anesthesiologists formerly in Anesthesia Associates of Roanoke Inc. and Roanoke Anesthesiology, P.C., and is now the exclusive provider of all the anesthesia services at *Carilion Roanoke Memorial, Carilion Community Hospital, Montgomery Regional Hospital and Carilion Brambleton Ambulatory Surgery Center*.

The decision by Anesthesiology Consultants creates an unfortunate situation that may have financial implications for your employees and their families enrolled in the TLC statewide plans who are planning to have surgery after March 17, 2004, at the facilities listed above.

To minimize the impact of Anesthesiology Consultants' decision on plan members, **Anthem will continue to pay for covered services as though Anesthesiology Consultants were still in the network.** Payment for these services will be mailed directly to the member. However, for dates of service beginning March 17, 2004, Anesthesiology Consultants may bill members for the difference between the Anthem payment and their charges.

TLC plan members are encouraged to have services performed at hospitals that offer participating anesthesiologists. Some of those hospitals are listed below. For a complete list, members can call Anthem Member Services at 1-800-552-2682.

- Lewis-Gale Medical Center
- Carilion New River Valley Medical Center
- Centra Health, Inc. (Lynchburg General Hospital and Virginia Baptist Hospital)
- The University of Virginia Hospital

This is a difficult situation. We regret the decision by these physicians to leave the Anthem network and any inconvenience their decision may cause employees in the Roanoke area and other parts of Southwest Virginia.

Thank you for your assistance. We will update you if continuing negotiations between Anthem and this group result in a change in the network status.